737 Worthington Ridge

1825

Mary Esther Griswold (1879-1970), Superintendent of Berlin Schools 1923-1932. Established a junior and senior high school program. Her sister Fanny lived with her.

Griswold School named in her honor

Victorian

Worthington Historic District

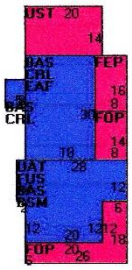
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 181

1894 current owner: Joanne Johanns Victorian

Sketch

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1825 current owner: Adam Hummel



Genealogy

Her family moved to Talcottville, CT and during 1894 settled on Worthington Ridge, Berlin by the Old Meeting House. She taught in Hartford at Arsenal for 15 years, teaching Amer. History and Music for 15 years. Became a Superintendant of Berlin Schools in 1923. Remained until 1932. Established a junior and senior high school program. She died at age 90 years. Burpee - The Story of CT; Vol. 3 - p.531

Mary Esther Griswold (1879-1970) daughter of Ward Griswold & Frances Howland. She never married. She is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery in Talcottville, CT.

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#181

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR	IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)

2. TOWN CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: | COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 737 Worthington Ridge | 16-1/106/7

4. OWNER(S): Johanns, Joanne M. " " Berlin 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private

5. USE (Present): Residence | (Historic): Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Victorian Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1894

8. MATERIALS (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☒ Brick foundation ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☒ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: ☐ Cut stone Type:

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify)

10. ROOF (Type)
☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify)

(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify)

☒ Gable end to the street
☐ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 21' x 55'

12. CONDITION (Structural) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated | (Exterior) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location) ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations) ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: Siding

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☒ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In Worthington Ridge Local Historic District; just south of Worthington Meetinghouse.

(OVER)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

This house has a three-bay facade with the entry in the left bay. A one-story porch wraps around the right corner to meet a shallow, cross-gable ell. The porch has a geometric stickwork railing, turned posts, simple curved brackets and a spindled frieze; the right-front corner is rounded. Windows are fitted with 2-over-2 sash. There is an additional cross-gabled ell on the left and a one-and-one-half-story rear extension.

SIGNIFICANCE

18. ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house is a good example of Victorian Vernacular architecture. The ornamental woodwork that is a distinguishing characteristic of the period is seen in the elaborate porch, with its turned posts, stickwork railing and frieze, and rounded corner.

The house is located on land purchased by Mary J. Griswold from the farm of Carrie Bennett in 1894. Griswold, who owned a good deal of property in Berlin, probably built the house shortly thereafter. Ownership remained in the Griswold family for many decades.

SOURCES

Berlin Land Records 44:228 (1894)

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC

DATE: 11/84

VIEW: E

NEGATIVE ON FILE: C16

COMPILED BY

NAME: Historic Resource Consultants

DATE: 12/84

ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory

ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS